



COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH

SEVENTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

1955.

PRINTED BY THE TYNEMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

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County Borough of Tynemouth

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

January to April, 1955

THE MAYOR—Councillor Mrs. A. SOUTHWORTH.

Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. A. SOUTHWORTH.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. S. A. BALLARD.

Members :

Alderman FORSYTH, J.P.	Councillor KITWOOD, Mrs. N.
Councillor BILCLOUGH.	„ LITTLE.
„ BILTON, Mrs. C. E.	„ RICHARDSON.
„ CRAWSHAW.	„ SOWERBY.
„ FORSTER.	„ WELCH, Mrs. M.
„ HEARN, Mrs. E. E.	

May to December, 1955

THE MAYOR—Councillor J. R. WATSON.

Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. A. SOUTHWORTH.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. S. A. BALLARD.

Members :

Alderman LISLE.	Councillor RICHARDSON.
Councillor ANDERSON.	„ SOWERBY.
„ BILTON, Mrs. C. E.	„ SPENCE.
„ FORSTER.	„ TURNER.
„ HEARN, Mrs. E. E.	„ WELCH, Mrs. M.
„ KITWOOD, Mrs. N.	

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

—: o :—

MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF

Medical Officer of Health and

Principal School Medical Officer ...	R. H. DAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	MARGARET B. STEEL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Part-time Assistant Medical Officers	ELSPETH C. SPENCER, M.B., B.S. A. E. WHITE, M.B., B.S.
Principal Dental Officer	R. W. ESSENHIGH, L.D.S.
Dental Officer	R. E. O. WADDELL B.D.S. (commenced 1/2/55)

CLERICAL STAFF

Chief Clerk	W. R. MILLER.
Senior Clerk	G. G. ELLIS
Clerks	B. O. BLAGBURN. H. J. SPRATT (commenced 14/11/55). A. LOGAN, A.C.C.S. (Resigned 6/11/55). Miss E. BOGIE. Miss N. WALLACE. Miss E. HARRISON. Miss M. LAMBERT. Mrs. J. WAUGH. Miss G. CRAGG. Miss A. C. SCOTT (commenced 28/6/54), Part time. Mrs. A. A. COOPER (commenced 15/9/55), Part time. Mrs. A. E. KIRKNESS (commenced 31/5/55), Part time.

SANITARY INSPECTION STAFF

Senior Sanitary Inspector	C. A. MURRAY, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection.
Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector ...	J. E. HALL, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspection.
Sanitary Inspectors	L. MORALEE, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection. R. C. NICHOLSON, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection. W. F. WILKINSON, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection (resigned 11/12/55). S. TREWHITT, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat In- spection.
Disinfector	B. NEWHAM.

NURSING STAFF

Superintendent Nursing Officer ...	A. M. TURNER, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Q.N.).
Health Visitors	M. BATEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. A. I. MOONEY, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. H. MARCH, S.R.N., S.C.M. E. MYERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. E. SMART, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. L. HARRISON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT—*cont.*

Health Visitors

M. A. WIGHT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
K. I. M. HODGSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
A. TINDLE, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M. E. MADDEN, S.R.N., S.R.C.N., S.C.M.
(Part 1), H.V. Cert.
J. BROWN, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Cert.

Municipal Midwives

M. HALL, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M. CARRUTHERS, S.C.M.
E. MOONEY, S.C.M.
A. BROWN, S.C.M.
E. BUXTON, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M. (Q.N.).
E. BRIGGS, S.E.A.N., S.C.M.
E. SIMPSON, S.C.M.

District Nurses

J. A. WAKE, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned
31/12/55).
M. RICHMOND, S.R.N.
M. LOGGAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N.
C. THOMSON, S.R.N.
A. ROWLEY, S.E.A.N.
M. DIXON, S.E.A.N.
E. H. THOMAS, S.E.A.N.
H. E. ROYLS S.R.N. (Q.N.)

DULY AUTHORISED OFFICERS

W. R. MILLER.
B. O. BLAGBURN.
H. J. SPRATT.

PUBLIC ANALYST

W. GORDON CAREY, F.R.I.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TYNEMOUTH.

July, 1956.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Tynemouth.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health and sanitary conditions of the County Borough of Tynemouth, for the year 1955.

As in previous years, I would refer you to the body of the report for detailed statistical information. There are, however, one or two features relating to the vital statistics for the year under review to which I would draw your attention particularly.

The birth rate of 17.12 per thousand of the population, whilst lower than that recorded for the previous year, is still in excess of that applicable to England and Wales generally.

The death rate of the borough was 12.89 per thousand of the population. This represents an increase of 1.05 per thousand over last year's figure. An analysis of the causes of death indicate that the increase was in a large measure due to diseases of the heart and blood vessels, together with the cerebral complications of these conditions. It is gratifying to record however that there was a further decline in the number of deaths resulting from tuberculosis. The figure relating to cancer is virtually equivalent to that of each of the preceding two years.

The statistics relating to the number of notifiable infectious diseases occurring during the year, indicated a greatly increased incidence of measles which reached epidemic proportions. There were, however, no deaths from this disease. The prevalent type of scarlet fever was again of an exceptionally mild character. There were no cases of diphtheria notified. It was estimated that, at the end of the year under review, 72 per cent. of the child population had been immunised against this latter disease.

The least satisfactory feature of the statistics for the year, is that related to infant mortality. The number of neo-natal deaths occurring in the Borough is still appreciably in excess of the National average. Against this, however, the stillbirth rate is comparatively low.

The duties of the sanitary inspectors have been executed during the year in an efficient and energetic manner under the direction of the Senior Sanitary Inspector whose report is incorporated herein.

Once again, I desire to express my sincere thanks to the members of the staff of the Public Health Department for the interest and efficiency they have evinced in their work during the year. I have also to acknowledge the assistance which has been readily given by my colleagues in other Corporation Departments in furnishing data for inclusion in this report.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their valuable support and the interest that they have taken in the activities of the Public Health Department.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

R. H. DAWSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES.

The committees of the Local Authority, which control matters relating to communal health, are :—

- (a) **The Health Committee**, which consists of thirteen members of the Local Authority, two of whom are representatives of the Local Education Authority ;
- (b) **The Health Sub-Committee**, which consists of the whole of the members of the Health Committee, together with co-opted representatives of the Local Executive Council, the South East Northumberland Hospital Management Committee and the Local Medical Committee ;
- (c) **The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee**, consisting of six members of the Health Committee and *four co-opted members.
- (d) **The Mental Treatment Sub-Committee**, consisting of eight members of the Health Committee and *five co-opted members.
- (e) **The Tuberculosis Care Sub-Committee**, consisting of six members of the Council, including the Mayor, and *five co-opted members.
- (f) **A Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee**, the object of which is to raise funds by voluntary effort, to supply such articles as bedding, clothing, and extra nourishment, to necessitous cases of tuberculosis. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee are members of this Committee.
- (g) **The Fire Brigade Committee**, being the Committee responsible for the routine administration of the Ambulance Service on behalf of the Health Committee, consists of twelve members of the Council, including the Mayor, plus one representative of the Health Committee, namely the Chairman of that Committee. In the event of the Chairman of the Health Committee being an ordinary member of the Fire Brigade Committee, another member of the Health Committee shall be appointed a member of the Fire Brigade Committee. The ambulance service is operated conjointly with the fire service.

*These co-opted members are appointed by the Council from any nominations received when the Committees are elected in May of each year.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area 4,604 acres, plus 80 acres inland water, 150 acres
foreshore and 185 acres half River Tyne

Population Registrar General's 1951 Census	...	...	...	66,564
Population. Estimated Mid Year 1955 by Registrar General	...			67,100
Population of Children under 15. Estimated Mid Year 1955 by Registrar General)	...	...	...	16,700
Number of Private Families 1951 Census	...	...	...	19,882
Number of Private Families. 1955 Register of Electors	...			20,533
Average number of persons per family. 1955 Register of Electors				3.263
Rateable Value, 1954/55	...	...	...	£502,970
Product of a penny rate 1954/55	...	...	...	£2,033

VITAL STATISTICS.

Marriages and Births.

Number of Marriages	...	...	...	...	596
Total LIVE BIRTHS (Registrar General's figures)	...	...			1,149

Compiled as follows :—

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Legitimate	...	560	548
Illegitimate	...	20	21
		580	569

The NETT TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS assignable to the Borough as above (1,149) gives an ANNUAL LIVE BIRTH RATE of 17.12 per 1,000 of the population.

The LIVE BIRTH RATE for England and Wales was 15.0 per 1,000 of the population.

The percentage of ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS to the total live births for the Borough equalled 3.5.

STILLBIRTHS during the year totalled 26

Compiled as follows :—

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	... ..	16	10
Illegitimate	... ..	—	—

The STILLBIRTH RATE for the Borough was 22.12 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

The STILLBIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the total live and still births for England and Wales equalled 23.17.

DEATHS.

DEATHS assignable to the Borough during the year totalled ... 865

Compiled as follows :—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
465	400

During the year 1,089 deaths were registered in the district. This figure is subject to the deduction of 303 outward transfers and the addition of 79 inward transfers, leaving a net total of 865 as shewn above.

The DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the population for the Borough equalled 12.89.

The DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales was 11.7.

INSTITUTIONAL DEATHS.

Deaths of persons belonging to the Borough which occurred in Hospitals, etc., were as follows :—

Preston Hospital	... ..	199
Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary	... ..	56
Frater Maternity Home	... ..	—
Moor Park Isolation Hospital	... ..	—
*The Oaks	... ..	4
*Holmlands	... ..	56
*The Elms	... ..	—
*St. Margaret's Home	... ..	5
Cleveland Villa Nursery	... ..	—
Other Institutions outside the Borough....		66
		<hr/> 386 <hr/>

44% of all deaths of residents of the Borough took place in Institutions.

* This is National Assistance Act, 1948, Part III accommodation.

Registrar-General's List of Causes of Death at different periods
of life in the County Borough of Tynemouth during 1955.

MALES.

Short List No.	Causes of Death.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	Total all Ages
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	4
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
3	Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
4	Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	1	13
11	Malignant, neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	2	6	9	2	19
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	1	—	—	2	12	12	14	41
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
16	Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	—	6	17	34	57
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	1	35	29	24	89
19	Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	7
20	Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	3	9	19	35	66
21	Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	9	20
22	Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia ...	2	2	—	—	—	3	6	6	19
24	Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	4	21
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	1	7	2	—	10
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	1	8
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	7
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	6
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	21	1	—	—	4	6	4	2	38
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	5
34	All other accidents ...	2	—	—	1	2	6	3	4	18
35	Suicide ...	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	5
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	Totals ...	30	8	2	5	22	119	133	146	465

Deaths under one year of age :—

Legitimate male children ... 27.
Illegitimate male children ... 3.

**Registrar-General's List of Causes of Death at different periods
of life in the County Borough of Tynemouth during 1955.**

FEMALES.

Short List No.	Causes of Death.	Under 1 Year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	Total all Ages
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	—	—	—	—	—	8	4	4	16
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	—	—	1	7	3	2	13
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	2	10
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	2	13	8	6	29
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
16	Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	—	7	30	41	78
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	21	14	40
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	8	15
20	Other heart disease ...	—	—	1	—	1	6	13	49	70
21	Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	13	17
22	Influenza ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
23	Pneumonia ...	4	1	—	—	—	1	6	10	22
24	Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	7	11
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	5
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
31	Congenital malformations ...	4	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	6
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	7	—	—	—	2	8	5	16	38
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34	All other accidents ...	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	3	8
35	Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	4
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals ...	17	2	1	2	11	76	109	182	400

Deaths under one year of age :—

Legitimate female children ... 17.

Illegitimate female children ... —.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

	No. of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths per 1,000 Deaths from all causes.
Total All Causes	865	
Cardio-Vascular Diseases ...	324	374.5
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	135	156.0
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	86	99.4

Cancer (all forms including Leukæmia, as from 1954) Deaths and Death Rates.

	1920 -24	1925 -29	1930 -34	1935 -39	1940 -44	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Deaths ...	319	315	403	474	529	95	122	114	124	99	128	104	139	144	147	145
Death Rate per 1,000 living ...	0.99	0.95	1.23	1.42	1.89	1.62	1.91	1.75	1.87	1.48	1.93	1.57	2.07	2.15	2.19	2.16
Proportion of deaths per 1,000 deaths from all causes ...	72	74	99	117	125	119	153	147	155	130	147	126	179	186	185	167

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF MATERNAL DEATHS FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Live Births.	Birth Rate.	TYNEMOUTH.		England and Wales Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and stillbirths.
			No. of Maternal Deaths (R.G.)	Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and stillbirths.	
1946	1,358	21.32	0	0.00	1.43
1947	1,433	22.02	5	3.39	1.17
1948	1,291	19.54	2	1.51	1.02
1949	1,311	19.72	2	1.48	0.98
1950	1,174	17.71	3	2.46	0.86
1951	1,228	18.52	2	1.58	0.79
1952	1,222	18.26	1	0.80	0.72
1953	1,251	18.72	3	2.34	0.76
1954	1,210	18.06	1	0.80	0.69
1955	1,149	17.12	1	0.85	0.63
Average of 10 years.	1,262	19.09	2.0	1.52	0.90

A five-yearly average, set out below, shows the progressive decline in the number of Maternal Deaths.

<i>Period.</i>					<i>Average.</i>
1910/14	...	...	...	...	8.8
1915/19	...	...	...	...	8.0
1920/24	...	...	...	...	4.8
1925/29	...	...	...	...	5.8
1930/34	...	...	...	...	6.2
1935/39	...	...	...	...	3.2
1940/44	...	...	...	...	2.6
1945/49	...	...	...	...	2.2
1950/54	...	...	...	...	2.0

INFANT MORTALITY RATES OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Deaths of resident infants under 1 year of age totalled 47 (42 in 1954) of which 35 were related to children who did not survive for more than 4 weeks. Of these 47 deaths, 32 occurred in institutions.

The Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, for the Borough equalled 40.9. The corresponding figure for England and Wales was 24.9.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES, DEATHS AND DEATH RATES, IN WARDS.
***BIRTHS. **DEATHS.**

Ward.	Ward popln.	R E S I D E N T S						Live Birth rate per 1,000 of Ward popln.	% of illeg. Births to total Births	TOTAL NON-RESIDENT BIRTHS.				No. of Deaths.			Death rates per 1,000 of Ward poplns.	
		Live Births.				Still births	Live			Still.	Resi-dents.	Non-Resi-dents	Total Deaths	Resi-dents.	Non-Resi-dents.			
		Male.		Female.			M.									F.		
		Legmt.	Illeg.	Legmt.	Illeg.													
CHIRTON ...	7,915	1	67	1	70	1	1.5	17.5	—	—	98	1	99	12.3	—			
COLLINGWOOD	10,532	7	67	—	82	2	1.3	14.3	1	—	85	5	90	8.0	0.4			
CULLERCOATS	7,433	2	80	2	52	1	2.1	18.1	—	—	92	5	97	12.3	0.6			
DOCKWRAY ...	6,382	2	62	6	56	—	4.9	19.4	—	—	98	—	98	15.3	—			
LINSKILL ...	6,167	4	47	3	44	3	6.4	15.7	231	216	106	234†	340	17.1	37.9			
PERCY ...	7,328	5	86	3	72	1	2.4	22.1	2	—	96	—	96	13.1	—			
PRESTON ...	6,177	1	36	—	41	1	1.2	12.6	76	81	80	51‡	131	12.9	8.2			
TRINITY ...	7,201	1	81	3	79	1	2.4	22.7	1	—	105	4	109	14.5	0.5			
TYNEMOUTH...	7,865	2	45	—	51	4	4.1	12.7	—	—	105	3	108	13.3	0.4			

* As per notification register, adjusted by transfers.
 ** As per local registrar's weekly returns, adjusted by transfers.
 † Consists mainly of deaths in Preston Hospital.
 †† Consists mainly of deaths in Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary.

The following is a table of Statistics relating to the Borough since its incorporation in 1849, illustrating the increase in population and decrease in both birth and death rates.

Year.	Population.	Nett Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Nett Births.	Live Birth Rates per 1,000 of Population.
1849	28,448	—	—	—	—
1871	38,941	—	—	—	—
1873	39,923	929	23.3	1,557	39.0
1874	40,424	1,075	26.6	1,542	38.1
1875	40,932	963	23.5	1,607	39.2
1880	43,533	928	21.3	1,521	34.9
1885	46,600	960	20.2	1,612	33.9
1890	46,403	973	20.9	1,533	33.0
1895	48,632	984	20.2	1,533	31.5
1900	51,038	1,074	21.0	1,649	32.3
1901	51,520	1,007	19.5	1,780	34.5
1902	52,224	1,009	19.3	1,753	33.5
1903	52,938	969	18.3	1,734	32.7
1904	53,661	1,031	19.2	1,851	34.5
1905	54,394	1,066	19.6	1,775	32.6
1906	55,137	1,022	18.5	1,759	31.8
1907	55,891	926	16.5	1,796	32.1
1908	56,654	951	16.8	1,896	33.4
1909	57,428	958	16.7	1,874	32.6
1910	58,223	971	16.6	1,788	30.7
1911	59,008	927	15.7	1,653	28.0
1912	59,809	957	16.0	1,734	28.9
1913	60,601	951	15.6	1,748	28.8
1914	60,688	992	16.3	1,736	28.6
1915	58,199	1,038	17.8	1,549	26.6
1916	57,192	968	16.9	1,573	25.2
1917	57,591	895	15.5	1,416	22.0
1918	55,758	1,141	20.4	1,471	23.5
1919	58,007	1,064	18.3	1,613	26.5
1920	60,541	956	15.8	1,947	32.1
1921	63,900	877	13.7	1,708	26.7
1922	64,640	855	13.2	1,618	25.03
1923	65,330	833	12.75	1,576	24.12
1924	65,940	900	13.64	1,521	23.06
1925	66,180	901	13.61	1,452	21.94
1926	66,560	766	11.5	1,341	20.14
1927	67,080	863	12.86	1,337	19.93
1928	66,030	833	12.62	1,252	13.9
1929	65,880	862	13.08	1,203	18.26
1930	65,880	787	11.94	1,280	19.41
1931	64,720	814	12.57	1,276	19.71
1932	65,630	748	11.41	1,238	18.86
1933	65,770	873	13.27	1,135	17.25
1934	65,950	840	12.73	1,172	17.77
1935	67,350	824	12.23	1,201	17.38
1936	66,800	773	11.57	1,209	18.1
1937	66,880	858	12.83	1,087	16.25
1938	66,510	797	11.98	1,104	16.6
1939	65,220	792	12.14	1,119	16.7
1940	59,730	840	14.06	1,060	17.74
1941	56,240	1,066	18.95	897	15.95
1942	53,500	787	14.71	908	16.97
1943	52,370	780	14.89	1,019	19.45
1944	57,100	816	14.29	1,252	21.90
1945	58,760	797	13.56	1,144	19.47
1946	63,690	796	12.47	1,358	21.32
1947	65,070	772	11.86	1,433	22.02
1948	66,050	800	12.11	1,291	19.54
1949	66,480	762	11.46	1,311	19.72
1950	66,270	871	13.14	1,174	17.71
1951	66,300	825	12.44	1,228	18.52
1952	66,900	774	11.56	1,222	18.26
1953	66,800	771	11.54	1,251	18.72
1954	67,000	793	11.84	1,210	18.06
1955	67,100	865	12.89	1,149	17.12

SEPARATE OCCUPIERS.

During 1955, lists of Separate Occupiers were compiled from information obtained from the Electors' Register, and set out below are details shown in Wards.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Number of Separate Occupiers.</i>			
Chirton 	2,424			
Collingwood 	3,229			
Cullercoats 	2,277			
Dockwray 	1,956			
Linskill 	1,890			
Percy 	2,246			
Preston 	1,893			
Trinity 	2,207			
Tynemouth 	2,411			
Total ...				20,533

Based on the Registrar-General's estimated population for the year 1954, *i.e.* 67,000, the local average of persons per family equalled 3.263.

METEOROLOGY.

Air Temperatures and Rainfall.

LAT. 55° 1' N. LONG. 1° 25' W.

1955.	Air Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit.		Rainfall.	
	Absolute.		Total Fall.	Percentage of average.
	Max.	Min.	ins.	%
January ...	52	18	2.09	128
February ...	48	18	2.29	167
March ...	53	27	2.05	113
April ...	62	34	1.05	74
May ...	61	34	—	—
June ...	70	39	2.34	118
July ...	74	49	0.77	32
August ...	76	49	0.95	35
September ..	72.	42	0.84	47
October ...	67	32	1.95	65
November ...	59	33	1.16	54
December ...	57	27	3.15	144

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

There are now no registered Nursing Homes in the Tynemouth Area.

NURSES ACT 1943.

There are no Nurses Agencies licensed under Section 8 of the Nurses Act 1943, within the area of the County Borough of Tynemouth.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948.

No premises or persons have yet been registered with the Council of the County Borough of Tynemouth, under the provisions of the above Act.

BLIND PERSONS.

The total number of blind persons on the register of the Welfare Department at the end of the year was 151. An analysis of cases examined during the year for the purpose of registration is contained in the following tables.

No. of Forms B.D.8 received during year	Certified Blind	Certified Partially Sighted	Neither Blind nor Partially Sighted	Cases of Retrolental Fibroplasia in Premature Infants	No. Blinded by Glaucoma where treatment not given prior to certification
83	31	23	29	Nil	Nil

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons.

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—	CAUSE OF DISABILITY			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment ...	10	2	—	18
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ...	15	1	—	8
(ii) Number of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	8	—	—	5

B. Ophthalmia neonatorum.

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil
(ii) Number of cases in which :—	
(a) Vision lost	Nil
(b) Vision impaired	Nil
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	Nil

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year under review three elderly persons were the subjects of Orders made under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. Of these, one female, who had been residing alone in insanitary conditions, was removed to residential accommodation. The second case was that of an elderly man residing alone in insanitary conditions and who was suffering from a grave chronic illness. He was admitted to hospital. The third case was that of a woman suffering from an incurable disease for which she refused to have treatment and for whom her husband was unable to provide proper care and attention at home. She was admitted to hospital in the first instance, but was later removed to residential accommodation under the authority of a varying Order.

A further Order was sought, and granted, under the National Assistance Amendment Act, 1951, in the case of an elderly man residing alone in indescribably filthy conditions. This case was admitted to residential accommodation.

A further application was made for an Order, under the Amendment Act, in respect of an elderly woman residing alone, but before the Order was granted she expired.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological specimens are examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, which is directed by the Medical research Council for the Ministry of Health at the Public Health Laboratory, Government Buildings, Ponteland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 5.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, ETC.,

Considerable attention has been given during the year by the Medical Staff, to the examination of staff personnel, for various reasons. 46 persons were examined for superannuation purposes, 23 because they had attained the age of 65, 68 Fire Service personnel undergoing training, and 40 students about to enter the teaching profession. In addition 36 investigations were made with general practitioners in connection with staff sickness problems.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

PART III.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Sec. 22).

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Three sessions are held weekly at the Central Clinic at the Public Health Department and one weekly session at each of the three subsidiary clinics, sited at widely separate points of the Borough at Meadowell School, Ridges Estate, Y.M.C.A. Buildings, New York Village and at Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Cullercoats.

778 children under one year of age attended these clinics for the first time during the year, and altogether a total of 1,796 children under five years of age made 8,379 attendances.

Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association. (Voluntary—Grant aided by Council). Cases investigated 54. Cases placed in homes 12. 766 visits were paid and received.

The work of the Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association, with the assistance of a small financial subsidy granted by the Local Health Authority, in placing unmarried expectant mothers in appropriate homes for their confinements, is highly commendable, and this voluntary service is greatly appreciated by the Health Committee.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.—*i.e.* babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation.

Number of premature live born infants notified during the year (including transferred notifications) whose mothers normally reside in Tynemouth area :—

(i)	Born at home	...	...	...	...	...	24
(ii)	Born in private nursing home	...	...	...	...	...	1
(iii)	Born in hospital	...	...	...	...	...	72

Out of these 97 cases of prematurity, 8 died within 24 hours, 17 survived 24 hours but died within 28 days, and 72 were still surviving after 28 days. 11 premature stillbirths occurred in hospital and 5 at home.

HEALTH OF CHILDREN

The principal measures introduced by the Council to minimise the number of families disrupted by illness or social difficulties, with resultant profound deleterious effect upon the children, included the regular meeting of appropriate officers at least once a quarter to review old cases and determine the action to be taken in new cases. The personnel of this Committee consists of representatives of the Welfare and Children's Departments, the Superintendent Nursing Officer with the appropriate Health Visitor, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, together with members of Women's Voluntary Organisations. In addition to these regular meetings, close liaison was maintained by the relevant departments of the Council.

With the realisation that further demand would be made upon the services of the Health Visitors in relation to the investigation and supervision of such cases, authority was given for a further Health Visitor to be appointed to the staff. Efforts made in this direction were unsuccessful owing to the difficulty of recruitment.

Up to the end of the year there had been no extension of the Home Help Service, nor was anyone appointed to teach housecraft, or as "sitters-in."

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

As in previous years special attention has been given by the Health Visiting staff to the close supervision of this class of children. In addition the Visitor of the Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association has devoted much time to the surveillance of homes where there are illegitimate children. (See also under Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association on Page 13.)

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS AMONGST YOUNG CHILDREN.

Special efforts have been made by the Health Visitors and School Nurses to reduce the incidence of Scabies and of verminous conditions. Much work relating to disinfestation of children is carried out regularly at the School Clinic.

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are two Nursery Schools administered by voluntary organisations in the Borough. Both schools have places for 80 children.

REPORT BY R. W. ESSENHIGH, PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER, ON THE DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN DURING 1955.

The Monday afternoon special session for the dental examination of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children was continued during 1955 at the Public Health Department.

Of the pre-school children who were inspected the majority required some form of dental treatment and this was undertaken at the School Dental Clinic.

A new operating couch has now been provided for children requiring general anaesthesia and the anaesthetics were administered by Dr. J. R. Steadman.

Expectant and nursing mothers who were asked to attend for a dental examination were, where it was found necessary, advised to attend local private practitioners for treatment as in previous years.

Much success can again be reported in the treatment of calcium deficiency in young children by the distribution of suitable preparations for use at home. A marked improvement in the general health of the patients, particularly during the winter months was noted with great interest.

During the year the able assistance of the Medical and Nursing Staffs was greatly appreciated and resulted in valued co-operation between the patients, the parents and the Dental Officer.

39 expectant and nursing mothers, and 149 children under five, were examined.

ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT CLINICS.

Clinics are held twice each week at the Public Health Department. Conditions treated during the past year were—Debility 29 ; Other conditions 36 ; a total of 65 cases, who made 880 attendances.

WELFARE FOODS.

Proprietary brands of dried milk and other foods are sold during the various Maternity and Child Welfare sessions. The local branch of the W.V.S. continued to provide invaluable assistance in this work. During the year, a total of 2,640 lbs. of dried milk was distributed, as against a total of 2,808 lbs. during the previous year.

The total amount expended by the Local Authority on the purchase of dried milk and other foods during the year was £515. 17s. 0d., all of which was recovered by way of sales to mothers attending the various child welfare centres.

The welfare foods section has now completed its first full year in operation. Mothers appreciate being able to obtain their dried milk and vitamin preparations from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and this new service is being operated efficiently and economically by the appointment of only two additional part-time assistants. The administration is carried out by the existing clerical staff.

The central distribution centre is open to the public during the afternoons of Monday to Friday, and on Saturday mornings.

During the year, the following quantities were issued :—

National Dried Milk	...	...	...	58,305 tins.
Orange Juice	...	...	...	44,413 bottles.
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...	8,914 bottles.
Vitamin A & D Tablets	...	...	...	2,961 packets.

MIDWIFERY (Sec. 23).

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

The Assistant M.O.H. holds 8 ante-natal sessions per month. During the year 245 women attended (201 for the first time). A total of 1,242 attendances were recorded. There was an increase of 32 in the number of women who attended, against last year's figures.

Post-natal clinics are held twice per month. 59 women made single attendances. This showed a decrease against last year's figure of 11 women attending.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is also held at Preston Hospital, for the convenience of patients booking at this institution.

MEDICAL AID UNDER SECTION 14 (1) OF THE MIDWIVES' ACT, 1951.

Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives' Act, 1951, by a Midwife :—

(a) For Domiciliary cases :—							
(i) Where the Medical Practitioner had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service.	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
(ii) Others.	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
(b) For cases in Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

MATERNITY OUTFITS.

394 Sterilised Maternity Packs were issued free of charge to expectant mothers.

ANALGESIA.

Training courses in the administration of Gas and Air analgesia are available at the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department of Newcastle General Hospital. The seven Municipal Midwives are qualified to administer analgesia and eleven institutional midwives employed in hospitals within the area of the County Borough of Tynemouth are also qualified.

During the year Municipal Midwives administered Gas and Air Analgesia to 177 cases, Trilene to 20 cases, and Pethidine to 278 cases.

MATERNITY CASES ATTENDED.

The work of the domiciliary midwives shows a decrease in the number of cases attended—374 in 1955 as against 411 in 1954.

Cases attended by midwives acting as such totalled 140 and 234 by midwives acting as maternity nurses.

Midwives employed in institutions within the Borough area, dealt with 1,301 cases, which figure includes 626 non-residents.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

A total of 1,706 births including non-residents was notified during the year (1,652 live and 54 stillbirths).

Eleven births were not notified, but immediately on the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936, being brought to the notice of the persons concerned, these were officially intimated.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During the year one case of puerperal pyrexia occurred amongst domiciliary confinements.

HEALTH VISITING (Sec. 24).

During the year Health Visitors visited 5,726 children under 5, paying 5,767 visits to children under 1; 3,236 to children between 1 and 2, and 9,179 visits to children between 2 and 5.

Expectant mothers received 68 visits and 1,200 visits were paid to miscellaneous other cases, such as aged persons, and cases of infectious diseases.

In addition 4,760 ineffective visits were made.

HOME NURSING (Section 25).

The service is staffed by eight whole-time district nurses under the direct control of the Superintendent Nursing Officer. Five of these nurses are State Registered, whilst the remaining three possess State Enrolled Assistant Nurse status. The work is arranged, as far as possible, so that a State Registered Nurse and a State Enrolled Assistant Nurse work together in partnership in their own area. Nursing procedures requiring the minimum of skill are carried out by the latter.

All requests for the services of a district nurse must be supported by a certificate from the medical practitioner in attendance on the patient.

The number of cases referred to the service by the out-patient departments of local hospitals is increasing. Many patients have expressed satisfaction with this arrangement. It has the advantage of easing congestion at hospital out-patient waiting rooms considerably.

No special arrangements are in existence for the home nursing of sick children.

During the year, the district nurses paid 20,795 visits to 814 patients. Table I sets out the categories into which these 814 patients fell, together with the number of visits paid in respect of each group. Table II provides a detailed analysis of the type of nursing care required in respect of the total of 814 cases.

TABLE I.

	Medical	Surgical	Infect- ious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Maternal Compli- cations	Others	Total
Cases	431	212	4	16	12	139	814
Visits	13,327	5,521	24	246	100	1,577	20,795

TABLE II.

Type of Case.	Children	Adults	Total
Injections	47	94	141
Post Operative Dressings	11	61	72
Gynaecological and Obstetrical Cases ...	—	10	10
Neo-Natal Care	8	—	8
Infectious Diseases	3	1	4
Enemata (Worm Infections — prior to X-Ray Examination etc.)	17	48	65
Minor Ailments and Accidents	19	} 495*	514
Chronic Sick Nursing	—		
TOTALS	105	709	814

* The majority of these were classified as chronic sick nursing.

Loan equipment is available free of charge and considerable use of this service has been made by patients.

Articles available on loan.			No. of occasions issued during the year.
Rubber air rings	...	...	52
Back rests	...	...	32
Bed cradles	...	...	11
Rubber cushions	...	...	4
Invalid chairs...	...	...	18
Mackintosh sheets	...	...	71
Rubber bed pans	...	...	Nil
Steel bed pans	...	...	60
Spinal carriage	...	...	1
Urinals...	...	...	24
Water beds	...	...	Nil

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Sec. 26).

Efforts to have infants vaccinated are still being continued by direct approach to parents by health visitors and by postal reminders.

Record cards received from general practitioners show that 266 children under one year of age were vaccinated in 1955, as against 281 in 1954.

In addition 39 other persons were vaccinated and 17 were re-vaccinated.

NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (or re-vaccinated) DURING 1955							
Age at date of Vaccination ...	...	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	...	244	11	6	2	3	266
Number re-vaccinated	...	—	—	—	2	3	5

One case of generalised vaccinia was reported.

DIPHTHERIA.

IMMUNISATION.

Facilities are available for Diphtheria Immunisation at the Schools and at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

During the year, 1,563 children received injections—799 were school children and 764 were pre-school children.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children at 31st December, 1955, who had completed a course of Immunisation **at any time before that date** (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1941).

Age at 31/12/55 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1955	1 — 4 1951-1954	5 — 9 1946-1950	10 — 14 1941-1945	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1951—1955 ...	31	2,744	4,561	350	7,686
1950 or earlier ...	—	—	766	3,919	4,685
Estimated mid-year child population ...	1,160	4,740	10,800		16,700

It is estimated that at 31st December, 1955, 72% of the child population (*i.e.*, children under 15 years of age) had been immunised, as compared with 78% in 1954.

ATTACK AND MORTALITY RATES.

The following table illustrates the incidence of Diphtheria in the Borough since 1901. The figures are shown in five yearly periods from 1901 to 1940, and in yearly periods from 1941 to date.

Period.	Population 5 yearly average.	Total cases notified per 5 yearly period.	Attack Rates per 1,000 of the population.	Total Deaths per 5 yearly period.	Fatality Rates per 1,000 cases notified.	Fatality Rates per 1,000 of the population.
1901-1905	52,947	179	3.380	38	212	.717
1906-1910	56,666	345	6.088	49	142	.864
1911-1915	59,661	324	5.430	38	117	.636
1916-1920	57,818	182	3.147	19	105	.328
1921-1925	65,198	182	2.791	20	109	.306
1926-1930	66,286	562	8.478	36	64	.543
1931-1935	65,884	222	3.369	20	90	.303
1936-1940	65,028	561	8.627	29	35	.445
1941	56,240	182	3.236	11	60	.195
1942	53,500	218	4.074	12	55	.224
1943	52,370	87	1.661	4	46	.076
1944	57,100	132	2.311	2	15	.035
1945	58,760	115	1.957	3	26	.051
1946	63,690	63	0.989	1	16	.015
1947	65,070	11	0.169	Nil	Nil	Nil
1948	66,050	3	0.045	2	666*	.030
1949	66,480	3	0.045	Nil	Nil	Nil
1950	66,270	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1951	66,300	1	0.015	Nil	Nil	Nil
1952	66,900	2	0.029	Nil	Nil	Nil
1953	66,800	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1954	67,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1955	67,100	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Although there were 2 deaths this year it must be borne in mind that only 3 cases were notified, these 3 cases not having been immunised hence what appears to be an abnormally high fatality rate.

AMBULANCE SERVICE (Sec. 27).

The Ambulance Service, consisting of 6 ambulances, 1 sitting-case car and 1 dual purpose light ambulance, is operated by, and concurrently with, the Fire Service, an additional establishment of 18 firemen having been authorised for the provision of drivers and attendants.

During the year the Ambulances carried 13,572 patients a distance of 60,279 miles. The car and light ambulance carried 8,134 patients over a total of 40,114 miles.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE (Sec. 28). TUBERCULOSIS.

Chest Clinic.

The clinic which serves the population of this Borough is located in the same building as the Public Health Department. The medical staff consists of 2 Chest Physicians.

Regular sessions for the examination of cases referred by general practitioners, or as a result of mass miniature radiography, the review of old cases, the examination of contacts, etc., are held in the morning and afternoon of 3 days per week. An additional session is set aside for treatment of ambulant cases, and special arrangements are made for B.C.G. Vaccination.

The clinic not only serves the County Borough of Tynemouth, but also the Borough of Whitley Bay and Seaton Valley U.D.

A Health Visitor of the Tynemouth staff is present at those clinic sessions during which the majority of the Tynemouth cases are examined.

Contacts.

During the year under review 134 new contacts were examined and X-rayed, and a further 28 individuals in this category were X-rayed only. Old contacts who were X-rayed and examined numbered 68. A further 294 of this class were X-rayed only. In addition to these examinations, 290 contacts were X-rayed by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit.

Of the contacts examined, 10 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

Domiciliary Visiting.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 972 visits to the homes of individuals suffering from tuberculosis.

Rehousing.

The tenancies of five per cent. of the houses built by the Local Authority are allocated to families, some member of which suffers from active pulmonary tuberculosis. The number of families rehoused in 1955 under this scheme was 17.

This figure does not give a true indication of what has been achieved in this direction for 15 other tuberculous families were rehoused under the "points" scheme of the Corporation on the grounds of overcrowding.

B.C.G. Vaccination

During the year B.C.G. Vaccination was restricted to child contacts who were tuberculin negative reactors, and to a small number of members of nursing staffs of local hospitals. The figures relating to children were—Children of school age, 44 ; Children of pre-school age, 56 ; Total 100.

Convalescent Home Treatment.

Arrangements were made for the admission of 2 patients to a convalescent home for short periods.

After-care.

The voluntary County Borough of Tynemouth Tuberculosis After-care Committee continued to carry out very good work during the year.

Extra nourishment was granted to many necessitous cases and various comforts and necessities were supplied, mostly in the form of clothing and bedding.

Patients were provided with tuition in motor vehicle driving and occupational therapy has been commenced on a limited scale.

DOMESTIC HELP (Sec. 29).

During the year, domestic assistance was provided in 73 cases.

Of these 73 cases, 23 related to maternity cases, 11 to the chronic sick including the aged and infirm, and 39 to other cases of illness.

An average of 5 part-time home helps were employed during the year.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946,**PART V.****MENTAL HEALTH.****Administration.**

The administration of the Mental Health Services of the Borough is carried out by the Mental Treatment Sub-Committee which normally meets monthly and which consists of eight members of the Health Committee and five co-opted members elected annually by the Health Committee, such appointments not being subject to confirmation by the Council. The Committee considers, and reports to the Health Committee, all matters connected with Lunacy and Mental Deficiency, with the exception of certain functions under the Lunacy Acts which are discharged by the Welfare Committee.

Staff Employed in Mental Health Service.

R. H. Dawson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

M. B. Steel, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Asst. Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Practitioners approved for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938 :

N. D. Gofton, M.B., B.S.

S. C. Stonier, M.D.

J. C. Yeoman, M.B., B.S.

Medical Practitioners approved for the purposes of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930 :

F. G. M. Fraser, M.B., Ch.B.

T. E. Hurley, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

J. C. Yeoman, M.B., B.S.

P. S. G. Cameron, M.B., Ch.B.

W. E. Horowitz, M.D.

11 Health Visitors.

3 Duly Authorised Officers.

All the members of the Staff enumerated above are engaged in this work on a part-time basis.

Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee (joint use of Officers).

G. McCoull, O.B.E., V.R.D., M.D., Medical Superintendent of Prudhoe and Monkton Mental Deficiency Hospital conducts a Mental Deficiency Diagnostic Clinic at the Tynemouth Public Health Department. During the year 15 clinics were held and the following cases dealt with :—

New Cases, 21 ; 78 cases paid secondary visits.

Patients residing in Tynemouth who are on licence from Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital are supervised by the Hospital's Welfare Officer.

A highly satisfactory degree of co-operation exists between Prudhoe and Monkton Mental Deficiency Hospital, to which most of the Tynemouth cases requiring institutional care are admitted, and the medical and lay officers of the Local Health Authority. Close liaison also has been established between the medical officers of Preston Hospital, North Shields, who deal with lunacy and mental treatment cases, and the duly authorised officers.

Duties Delegated to Voluntary Associations.

Nil.

Training of Mental Health Workers.

No special arrangements have yet been initiated for the further training of Mental Health Workers.

Work Undertaken in the Community under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

No occupation centre for the training of mental defectives has yet been established by the Local Health Authority under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, but instruction in simple handicrafts is available at the Welfare Department, and at the end of the year 17 defectives had been enrolled for this purpose.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS.

The total number of cases dealt with by the Duly Authorised Officers during the year was 141. Out of the total of 141 cases dealt with, 104 were admitted to Preston Hospital, 2 to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, 2 were admitted directly to St. George's Hospital, Morpeth as voluntary patients and one certified patient to the Retreat, York. In 32 cases investigated, no action was necessary under the Lunacy Acts although 5 of these cases were admitted to Chronic Sick beds and another to Part III accommodation.

Of the 104 cases admitted to Preston Hospital 42 were subsequently certified and transferred therefrom to St. George's Hospital, Morpeth, 31 were discharged home, 23 entered St. George's Hospital, Morpeth as voluntary patients, 5 were transferred to Chronic Sick beds and 3 died in hospital.

Work Undertaken in the Community under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913—1938.

Ascertainment is carried out in co-operation with Tynemouth Education Authority and general practitioners. New cases are referred to Dr. McCoull for specialist diagnosis. The number of defectives admitted to institutions during the year was 4.

6 cases were ascertained as "subject to be dealt with" and placed under statutory supervision.

110 cases were under supervision, which is carried out by the Health Visitors.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The following table shows the hospitals used by the Local Health Authority and the number of patients thereat at the 31st December, 1955.

	Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital.	The General Hospital, South Shields	Rampton Hospital, Retford.	Durran Hill House, Carlisle.	Aycliffe Hospital, Darlington.	Northgate and District Hospital, Morpeth.
Males ...	66	4	1	—	1	2
Females ...	45	—	1	1	—	—

In addition there were 4 males and 3 females on licence from these hospitals.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1955.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1- 4 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5- 9 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-19 ...	6	3	1	—	3	3	—	—
20-24 ...	4	2	—	2				
25-34 ...	3	5	—	—				
35-44 ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	1	—
45-54 ...	6	—	—	—				
55-64 ...	7	—	—	—				
65 and over...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	36	16	1	3	4	3	1	—

The following table illustrates the tuberculosis morbidity and mortality figures during the past decade.

Year	NEW CASES				DEATHS				Mortality Rate per 1,000 of population	
	Pul- monary		Non-Pul- monary		Pul- monary		Non-Pul- monary		Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1945	42	28	7	9	29	17	7	6	0.78	0.22
1946	52	19	9	6	28	17	3	3	0.76	0.09
1947	43	42	5	10	31	22	5	4	0.81	0.13
1948	40	39	9	7	23	24	7	5	0.71	0.18
1949	41	27	5	3	22	12	2	4	0.64	0.09
1950	42	34	2	8	30	18	3	2	0.72	0.07
1951	50	41	4	11	14	8	1	5	0.33	0.09
1952	62	47	12	6	14	9	0	3	0.34	0.04
1953	39	38	14	7	6	1	3	1	0.10	0.06
1954	46	25	2	7	9	5	—	1	0.21	0.01
1955	36	16	1	3	4	3	1	—	0.14	0.01

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis).

Period	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Diphtheria		Acute Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Non-paralytic	Paralytic	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
FIRST QUARTER ...	3	2	37	26	...	...	...	1	444	433	...	...	2	3	2	7	...	...
SECOND QUARTER ...	1	2	34	38	...	...	...	...	220	197	...	...	1	2	1	2	...	...
THIRD QUARTER ...	2	4	25	21	...	...	...	...	5	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
FOURTH QUARTER ...	6	6	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	12	14	102	89	...	...	...	1	669	632	...	...	4	5	3	10	...	...
	26		191		1		...		1301		...		9		13		...	

Period	Acute Encephalitis						Enteric or Typhoid fever	Paratyphoid fevers		Erysipelas		Meningococcal infection		Food poisoning		Puerperal Pyrexia		Ophthalmia Neonatorum		Other Notifiable Diseases	
	Infective		Post-infectious		M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	M	F	M	F																	
FIRST QUARTER
SECOND QUARTER	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
THIRD QUARTER
FOURTH QUARTER	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

WATER.

General Domestic Supply.

The water supply for domestic and general use in the County Borough of Tynemouth, is provided by the water undertaking of the Local Authority, which is also responsible for supplying water to several other areas in South East Northumberland.

The water is derived from four sources, namely, an upland surface catchment area (Fontburn), springs in the same district, an appreciable quantity from the system of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and water extracted from the River Wansbeck in the vicinity of the village of Mitford. During the year under review the proportions from each of these supplies may be expressed approximately in the following percentages, Fontburn 50% ; Springs 19% ; Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company 16% ; Wansbeck 15%.

Distribution throughout the Borough is achieved through four covered service reservoirs.

The total number of samples of water derived from various points of the Corporation's water undertaking throughout the year, for the purpose of bacteriological examination was 246. Of these, 94 were obtained from piped supplies within the County Borough. A further 40 were of raw water. The remainder had their origin at various points located in that part of South East Northumberland supplied by the Tynemouth Water Department.

Table relating to the Bacteriological Examination of Samples of Water derived from Piped Supplies within the County Borough of Tynemouth.

Probable No. of coliform bacilli per ml.	No. of Samples. (MacConkey—2 days at 37°C.)
0	80
Up to 2	11
„ 5	3
„ 10	—
„ 50	—
Over 50	—
Total No. of Samples examined ... 94	

Table of Results relating to Samples of Raw Water.

Source.	Number of samples indicating probable Number of Coliform Bacilli present. (MacConkey—2 days at 37°C.).							Total No. of Samples
	0	1 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 50	51 to 180	Over 180	
Fontburn (upland surface) ...	4	2	1	—	2	3	—	12
Tomboy Springs (Fontburn) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tosson Springs ...	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	12
Cartington Springs	4	3	2	—	3	—	—	12
River Wansbeck ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Lion's Head Spring (Tynem'th Beach)	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTAL ...	21	6	3	—	5	4	1	40

The bacteriological counts of the samples of water included in the above table under the heading of Fontburn, show considerable improvement over those which normally obtain. The reason for this was that the impounding reservoir during a year of appreciably decreased rainfall was fed to a larger extent than usual by spring water.

The total number of samples derived from piped supplies within the County Borough, submitted for chemical analysis during the year, was 7. A typical result is set out in detail below. The remaining samples did not differ materially from this example.

Date received, 6th September, 1955. Sample marked "Moorhouses Cottages, North Shields".

Chemical Results.

Parts per Million

Total solids dried at 180°C.	...	...	...	...	...	130.0
Chlorine as chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	14.2
Free ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	None
Albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Trace
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	0.40
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 80°F.)	...	...	...	...	...	3.9
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	...	77.0
Permanent hardness	...	...	...	...	...	7.0
Temporary hardness	...	...	...	...	...	70.0
Lead and Copper	...	...	...	...	...	None
Iron	...	...	...	...	...	0.1
Appearance and Colour (Hazen degrees 40)	...	...	...	...	Pale yellow & clear	
Smell and Taste	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory	
Microscopical examination of deposit	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory	
pH value	...	...	...	...	7.2	
Lead solvency	...	...	...	...	0.2 parts per million	

Report.

This sample of water is practically identical in its main constituents to the sample examined in April last, except that more temporary hardness is present and correspondingly less permanent hardness. The colour also is much less, and therefore also, the oxygen absorbed figure.

The water is of satisfactory organic purity and is suitable for drinking and domestic use.

(Sgd.) W. GORDON CAREY.

Of the 20,000 (approx.) households in the Borough, it is estimated that 16,000 have an independent internal piped water supply, whilst the remaining 4,000 are dependent upon shared taps or taps in yards etc.

Swimming Baths. There is a large open-air swimming pool, situated at the South end of Tynemouth Long Sands, and in addition, there is an open-air swimming bath at Hawkey's Lane, North Shields. The former is filled with salt water, while the latter derives its supply from the Tynemouth Corporation water undertaking. Both are open for the summer season only. Continuous filtration and chlorination are used at both pools, the amount of free chlorine present in the water being estimated daily, during the season. Bacteriological examinations and chemical analyses of samples of these waters were satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

To THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH.

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the Sanitary Inspection of the Borough during the year 1955, and wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members of the Health Committee, and to all colleagues for their helpful co-operation and keen interest shown during the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

C. A. MURRAY, Cert.S.I.E.J.B.

Cert. Meat Inspection,

Senior Sanitary Inspector,

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Total number of inspections made						...	...	15,584
Total number of re-inspections made						...	...	6,391
						Inspection.	Re-inspections.	
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	187	98	
Animals, Poultry, etc.		...	...	...	...	120	5	
Ashplaces	...	...	...	...	...	15	57	
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	76	103	
Bakehouses (with mechanical power)				...	...	114	2	
„ (without mechanical power)				...	...	59	—	
Butchers' Shops and Stores			...	...	...	209	2	
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	
Closets—Water		...	...	...	...	850	525	
„ —Privies		...	...	...	...	11	4	
„ —Tubs		...	...	...	...	39	2	
Cold Stores	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	

Dairies, Milkshops and Milkstores	...	...	597	8
Dangerous Structures	...	...	30	16
Drains—Inspected	...	...	356	339
„ —Smoke Tests	...	...	15	2
„ —Chemical Tests	...	...	19	—
„ —Water Tests	...	...	24	2
Entertainment Houses	...	...	52	—
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	228	4
„ (without mechanical power)	...	...	63	4
„ (Outworkers)	...	...	13	—
Fishmongers' Shops and Stores	...	...	348	—
Fish Curing Premises	...	...	47	—
Fish Quay	...	...	309	—
Fish Frying Premises	...	...	134	1
Houses (Ordinary)	...	...	13	—
„ (Overcrowded)	...	...	286	—
Housing Enumeration (Part IV)	...	...	363	59
Houses (Consolidated Regulations)	...	...	68	86
„ (Clearance Areas, etc.)	...	...	10	10
Housing Act (other buildings)	...	...	1	—
Houses : Let in Lodgings	...	...	26	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	101	225
Food Preparing Premises—Ice Cream	...	...	326	—
„ „ „ —Cooked Meats	...	...	390	2
Meat and Food Inspections	...	...	660	9
„ „ „ Condemnations	...	...	440	6
„ „ „ Seizures	...	...	—	—
Meetings with Owners or Tradesmen	...	...	790	—
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	8	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	226	—
Nuisances Found	...	...	793	3,352
Offensive Trade Premises (excluding Fish Fryers)	...	...	14	—
Pets Act, (1951)	...	...	18	—
Piggeries	...	...	98	7
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	1,066	1,157
Samples—Food and Drugs Act	...	...	159	—
„ —Pathological	...	...	71	—
„ —Rag Flocks Act	...	...	—	—
„ —Water	...	...	28	—
„ —Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act	...	...	8	—
Sanitary Inspections	...	...	326	2
Seamen's Lodging Houses	...	...	8	—
Shops Act, Section 38 (1950)	...	...	1,160	17
Slaughterhouses—Private	...	...	103	—
Special Notices (Meat Regulations)	...	...	10	—
Schools	...	...	6	2
Smoke Observations	...	...	15	1
Special Visits	...	...	794	—
Sewers, etc.	...	...	49	31
Street Gullies	...	...	94	46

Streets or Back Roads	...	...	...	...	83	31
Stables	...	...	...	...	16	1
Tips	...	...	...	...	25	9
Urinals—Public	...	...	...	...	44	—
„ —Private	...	...	...	...	81	4
Van Dwellings	...	...	...	...	33	3
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	152	52
Yards and Courts	...	..	..	...	88	39

Complaints

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	1,314
Complaints confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	1,124
Matters referred to other Departments	...	...	...	...	...	172
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	793
Premises where work has been carried out without service of notice	...	...	...	...	...	163

Nuisances and Defects Remedied during 1955.

	Public Health Acts.		Housing Acts.	Tynemouth Corporat'n. Act.
	Informal.	Statutory.	Statutory.	Statutory.
No. of defects remedied under 1954 notices	246	90	56	3
Informal notice defects transferred to statutory notices...	76	—	—	—
No. of defects remedied under 1955 notices...	662	85	99	147
No. of defects outstanding at end of 1955 ...	287	173	189	5

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.—Inspections.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	44	67	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	229	232	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	276	299	6	—

The following defects were dealt with on receipt of notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories, and remedied in the course of inspections.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	1	1	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	3	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	3	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	2	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	10	7	—	4	—

There was a total of 276 factories on the Register at the end of the year, 232 with mechanical, and 44 without mechanical power.

OUTWORKERS.

Three notices under Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, were received during the year.

MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE.

Under the provisions of Section 34(1) factories of certain categories are required to be certified by the Council as having adequate means of escape in case of fire. Nine certificates were approved during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

There were 47 premises on the Register at the end of the year, all of which were inspected regularly. It was necessary to serve 2 notices during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS (P.H. Act, 1936, Sec. 269).

During the year 36 visits were made to the five sites in the Borough housing 9 Caravans. All are on a yearly Licence.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 (Section 38).

Under the provisions of the above Act, 1,177 visits were made to inspect sanitary conveniences and other arrangements for the welfare of the assistants. Nineteen notices were served during the year.

ASHPITS.

There are 7 ashpits, 29 privy ashpits and 13 pail closets in the Borough.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 2,223 visits were made to 1,705 premises, for the purpose of ascertaining rat infestations ; business premises with a high risk of infestation receiving special attention. Notices were served with successful results in certain difficult cases. The remedy of drainage and structural defects together with the use of traps, poison baits, etc., resulted in the majority of the premises being cleared. All work was carried out by Sanitary Inspectors, with the help of two trained operators from the Borough Surveyor's Department.

Two Partial Maintenance treatments of the Sewers were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This consisted of two days pre-bait, one day poison bait and a final day's visit to ascertain the amount of bait consumed. The estimated kill for both treatments was 4,470 rats.

Two Block Control treatments to Fish Quay premises were carried out during the year and resulted in a calculated kill of 1,250 rats.

During the year, privately owned and Corporation properties, including tips, were treated by the Corporation, whilst at certain privately owned works and other premises, treatment was carried out either by direct labour or by servicing firms. Farms and small holdings have also received attention.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Council Houses	...	...	...	12
Number of Other Houses	...	...	...	35
Number of Houses de-infested	...	...	...	47

Dwellinghouses were sprayed with insecticide after preparation of rooms, *e.g.*, stripping off wallpaper and removing skirting boards, etc. Infested bedding was de-infested by steam disinfection.

The dwellings, furniture and effects of all prospective Corporation tenants are inspected for evidence of vermin, and freed before removal to Corporation Houses, by a six hour concentrated fumigation with Sulphur Dioxide (2.8% S.O.₂); the gas being kept circulating by means of electric fans.

All deinfestation is carried out by experienced men employed directly by the Local Authority.

Deinfestation of privately owned and occupied property is not carried out by the Department. The services of a Sanitary Inspector are given in an advisory capacity, sprays being loaned free of charge, and insecticide sold at cost price.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES AND ARTICLES OF CLOTHING.

The following table shows the number of rooms disinfected and the number of articles of clothing removed and disinfected at Moor Park Hospital Disinfecting Station during the year.

Disease.							Rooms.	Articles of Clothing.
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	23
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	5
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	...	91	30
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	347
Total							203	405

SEAMEN'S LODGING HOUSES.

There were 2 Seamen's Lodging Houses on the Register at the end of the year, having accommodation for 27 males. Eight visits were made during the year. The Chief Constable also made periodic inspections and reported his satisfaction.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, etc.

Fifty-two inspections were made in connection with ventilation, sanitation or cleanliness of cinemas. The Chief Constable, who is also Inspector of Public Buildings, has had inspections made.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Eight informal samples of Fertilisers were taken during the year. The Public Analyst reported 3 samples as satisfactory, 2 contained an excess of an ingredient and 3 were deficient. Letters of caution were sent in appropriate cases.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

The above Act, which repeals the previous Acts of 1911 and 1928, came into operation on the 1st November, 1951.

Its purpose is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered and other articles which are stuffed and lined.

The total number of premises registered is 7.

There were no samples taken during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Regular inspections have been made on premises at which Offensive Trades are carried on, and the Regulations have been strictly enforced. A list of Offensive Trades registered in this Borough is given herewith :—

Tripe Boiling ...	...	...	...	4
Gut Scraping ...	...	...	...	1

In addition to these premises, regular visits have been made to analogous trades (fish liver boiling, fish meal and manure manufacture).

INSPECTION AND TESTING OF DRAINS.

The total number of tests made during the year was 62 of which 17 were Smoke Tests, 19 Chemical Tests and 26 Water Tests. The drains and sanitary conveniences of new buildings are dealt with by the Borough Surveyor's Staff.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

The Housing, Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, came into operation on the 30th August, 1954.

This Act enables a Landlord to claim an increase of rent where a dwellinghouse is let under a controlled tenancy, or occupied by a statutory tenant if the following conditions are fulfilled (a) that the dwellinghouse is in good repair ; (b) that it is reasonably suitable for occupation ; and (c) that works of repair to the value specified in the Act, have been carried out within a certain period.

A tenant who considers that the above-mentioned conditions have not been fulfilled, may apply to the Local Authority for a "Certificate of Disrepair", and if such a Certificate is granted, may withhold the rent increase until such time as the Certificate is revoked. In addition, the tenant may also withhold a sum in respect of the 40% permitted increase under Section 2 of the "Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920".

Details of the number of applications for "Certificates of Disrepair" and applications for revocation of Certificates which have been dealt with from the 1st April, 1955, until the 31st December, 1955, are given in the following table.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

Return of Certificates of Disrepair issued by the Local Authority under Section 26(1) of the above Act between 1st April, 1955 and 31st December, 1955.

Applications.	(a) Dwellinghouses which have been the subject of a Notice of repairs increase of Rent under Part II of the 1954 Act.	(b) Dwellinghouses which have <i>not</i> been the subject of a Notice of repairs increase of Rent under the 1954 Act, but in respect of which permitted increases of rent are recoverable under Sec.2(1) (c)&(d) of the Increase of Rent & Mortgages Interest (Restrictions) Act 1920
No. of Applications for Certificates	19	1
No. granted	19	1
No. refused	—	—
No. of applications for revocation of Certificates	16	—
No. granted	13	—
No. refused	3	—

HOUSING.

New dwellings erected under the Corporation Housing Scheme during the year :—

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1955.

(A) Total number of Houses Erected :—

(1) By the Local Authority	191
(2) By other Local Authorities	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	157

(B) Houses erected with State Assistance under the Housing Acts (Included in A above).

(1) By the Local Authority :—

(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Act (1925)	Nil.
(b) Do. Part III do.	Nil.
(c) For other purposes	Nil.
(d) Housing Act, 1936	Nil.

The above information has been supplied by the Borough Surveyor.

I.—Inspection of Dwelling houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	741
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	896
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925-1932	68
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	154
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation	737

II.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	526
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	22
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	1
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	313
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	331
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	34
(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4
(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	3

IV.—Overcrowding. Housing Act, 1936.

A revision of the position with regard to the state of overcrowding in the Borough was undertaken during 1955.

The over-all percentage of overcrowded properties is now shown to be 3.39% as compared with 3.70% in 1954, 3.80% in 1953 and 4.76% in 1939.

Details of the revised position are as follows:—

(a) Total number of separate occupiers in the Borough	Corporation	5,917	
	Private	14,616	
		<hr/>	20,533
(b) Total number of dwellings found to be overcrowded	Corporation	516	
	Private	181	
		<hr/>	697
(c) Degree of Overcrowding.			
Corporation Properties (On bedroom standard only) ...			8.72%
Private Properties (On total room standard)			1.23%
Total Properties (697)			3.39%

Whilst the degree of overcrowding in Corporation properties appears to be high, it is to be borne in mind that the standard recognised by the Ministry of Health for Corporation Properties is higher than that used for the assessment of overcrowding in privately-owned properties, any sleeping accommodation likely to be provided in the living room in the former being excluded from the appropriate standard

As a means of comparison, I submit details in respect of the overcrowding in the separate wards of the Borough as follows :—

Table "A" —Corporation Properties Only.

Table "B" —Private Properties only.

Table "C" —All Properties.

TABLE "A"—CORPORATION PROPERTIES ONLY.

Ward.	Uncrowded.	Overcrowded.	Total.	Percentages.
CHIRTON	1245	152	1397	10.88
COLLINGWOOD	1617	96	1713	5.60
CULLERCOATS... ..	599	12	611	1.96
DOCKWRAY	101	23	124	18.54
LINSKILL	36	4	40	10.00
PERCY	1348	213	1561	13.64
PRESTON	20	4	24	16.66
TRINITY	6	2	8	25.00
TYNEMOUTH	429	10	439	2.27
TOTAL... ..	5401	516	5917	8.72%

TABLE "B"—PRIVATE PROPERTIES ONLY.

Ward.	Uncrowded.	Overcrowded.	Total.	Percentages.
CHIRTON	1024	3	1027	0.29
COLLINGWOOD	1494	22	1516	1.45
CULLERCOATS... ..	1649	17	1666	1.02
DOCKWRAY	1779	53	1832	2.89
LINSKILL	1829	21	1850	1.13
PERCY	678	7	685	1.02
PRESTON	1855	14	1869	0.74
TRINITY	2167	32	2199	1.45
TYNEMOUTH	1960	12	1972	0.60
TOTAL	14435	181	14616	1.23%

TABLE "C"—ALL PROPERTIES.

Ward.	Uncrowded.	Overcrowded.	Total.	Percentages.
CHIRTON	2269	155	2424	6.39
COLLINGWOOD	3111	118	3229	3.65
CULLERCOATS... ..	2248	29	2277	1.27
DOCKWRAY	1880	76	1956	3.89
LINSKILL	1865	25	1890	1.32
PERCY	2026	220	2246	9.79
PRESTON	1875	18	1893	0.96
TRINITY	2173	34	2207	1.56
TYNEMOUTH	2389	22	2411	0.92
TOTALS	19836	697	20533	3.39%

A further Table "D" is given on page 41, as a means of comparison with previous Surveys.

TABLE "D"—COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF OVERCROWDED PROPERTIES SINCE ORIGINAL SURVEY.

Year.	Ward.	Un-crowded.	Over-crowded.	Totals.	Per-centages.
1938	CHIRTON	1876	109	1985	5.40
1952		2277	184	2461	7.47
1953		2289	161	2450	6.57
1954		2270	158	2428	6.50
1955		2269	155	2424	6.39
1938	COLLINGWOOD ...	1335	134	1469	9.10
1952		2980	104	3084	3.37
1953		3028	103	3131	3.29
1954		3033	114	3147	3.62
1955		3111	118	3229	3.65
1938	CULLERCOATS ...	1264	70	1334	5.30
1952		2026	27	2053	1.31
1953		2172	30	2202	1.36
1954		2215	32	2247	1.42
1955		2248	29	2277	1.27
1938	DOCKWRAY	2019	352	2371	14.80
1952		1857	106	1963	5.34
1953		1836	108	1944	5.74
1954		1878	101	1979	5.10
1955		1880	76	1956	3.89
1938	LINSKILL	2076	252	2328	10.80
1952		1859	50	1909	2.62
1953		1858	43	1901	2.25
1954		1863	38	1901	1.99
1955		1865	25	1890	1.32
1938	PERCY	2020	78	2098	3.10
1952		2044	254	2298	11.05
1953		2081	231	2312	10.06
1954		2016	227	2243	10.12
1955		2026	220	2246	9.79
1938	PRESTON	1627	72	1699	4.30
1952		1884	23	1907	1.20
1953		1880	20	1900	1.09
1954		1867	23	1890	1.21
1955		1875	18	1893	0.96
1938	TRINITY	2098	347	2445	140.2
1952		2114	67	2181	3.07
1953		2140	62	2202	2.93
1954		2208	50	2258	2.21
1955		2173	34	2207	1.56
1938	TYNEMOUTH ...	1046	58	1104	5.30
1952		2365	22	2387	0.92
1953		2359	18	2377	0.90
1954		2418	18	2436	0.74
1955		2389	22	2411	0.92
1938	TOTALS...	15361	1472	16833	8.74
1952		19406	837	20243	4.13
1953		19643	776	20419	3.80
1954		19768	761	20529	3.70
1955		19836	697	20533	3.39

TABLE "E"—GENERAL SUMMARY.

SIZE OF FAMILIES.				
	Up to 6½ Units	7 to 9 Units	9½ Units and Over	Totals
Private ...	147	28	6	181
Corporation ...	330	149	37	516
	477	177	43	697
220 "Large" Families.				

It will be observed from the foregoing Tables that there is now a total of 697 overcrowded families in the Borough as against the figure of 761 presented in my last report.

Whilst some marked improvement is shown in the smaller family groups, I wish to draw attention to the fact that there is no improvement in the larger unit groups. There appears to be no hope of making any substantial reduction in this figure, unless special provision can be made for them.

An analysis of the 220 overcrowded "large" families is given below.

TABLE "F."

SIZE OF FAMILY																	
	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12	12½	13	13½	14	14½	Total
Private ...	12	4	4	4	4	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Corporation	43	31	42	17	16	7	13	5	6	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	186
TOTALS ...	55	35	46	21	20	11	15	5	6	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	220

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

The campaign to form a Food Traders' Guild of Hygiene has been abandoned, as traders are awaiting the passing of the Food and Drugs Amendment Bill now before Parliament.

Action has been continued under the present Act, and as a result of notices served 18 additional constant hot water supplies have been fixed.

MILK SUPPLIES.

The County Borough is now included in a specified area under the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas No. 2) Order 1953, which came into operation on 2nd December, 1953 and has the effect of prohibiting the retail sale of any raw milk other than Designated milk. The six producers of non-designated milk made arrangements for their supplies to be sent to the Pasteurisation plant erected in the area of the adjacent authority of Whitley Bay.

605 visits were made to dairies, milk shops, etc. One prosecution was instituted respecting cement in a milk bottle. The Magistrates dismissed the case.

Consignments of milk coming into the Borough by road and rail and the conditions of the empty churns returned received attention. The keeping qualities of milk from certain outside sources has considerably improved due chiefly to better transport facilities.

Milk Retailers.

Applications for registration received	...	...	...	33
Applications for registration granted	...	...	...	33
Number of Milk Dealers on the Register	...	...	...	224
Dairy premises registered during the year	...	...	...	Nil.
Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	Nil.
Retailers relinquishing registration	...	...	...	8

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS.

The following table gives the various grades for which licences were granted :—

Dealers Licences to sell Tuberculin-Tested Milk	9
Dealers " " " Tuberculin-Tested Pasteurised Milk.....	10
Dealers Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk.....	33
Dealers Licences to sell Sterilised Milk.....	194
Supplementary Licences to sell Tuberculin-Tested Milk.....	4
Supplementary " " " Tuberculin-Tested Pasteurised Milk ...	5
Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk.....	8
Supplementary Licences to sell Sterilised Milk.....	4

MILK SAMPLES FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

During the year 46 samples of Milk were taken for examination and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories at Newcastle and Ponteland. Of the total samples taken 32 were from sources within the Borough and 14 from outside. In addition 13 samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for the Phosphatase Test.

All of the above 46 samples were examined for Tubercle Bacilli and gave negative results.

The following table sets out the details of the examinations carried out.

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

			<i>Total.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>	<i>Failed.</i>
Accredited Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	—	—	—	—
	Coliform Test ...	—	—	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	11	11	—	—
	Coliform Test ...	—	—	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	11	11	—	—
	Phosphatase Test ...	11	11	—	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	2	2	—	—
	Coliform Test ...	—	—	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	2	2	—	—
	Phosphatase Test ...	2	2	—	—
Ungraded Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	24	21	3	3
	Coliform Test ...	24	21	3	3
	Tubercle Test ...	24	21	3	3
Tuberculin Tested Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	7	7	—	—
	Coliform Test ...	7	7	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	7	7	—	—
Sterilised Milk.	Turbidity Test ...	2	2	—	—
Total Graded Milks ...			62	62	—
Total Ungraded Milks			72	63	9
Total Tests Made ...			134	125	9

The producers of unsatisfactory samples in this area were visited, cautioned and given advice, whilst those outside the area were notified, together with the Local Authorities concerned.

ICE-CREAM.

There are 12 producers in the Borough. Equipment has now been modernised, and all ice-cream is produced in accordance with the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-1951.

Twenty-five samples were subjected to the Methylene Blue Test similar to that applied to Milk samples. It is suggested by the Ministry that over any six months period 50% of vendors' samples should fall into Grade 1; 80% into Grades 1 or 2; and not more than 20% into Grade 3; and none at all in Grade 4.

The graded results of samples are as follows :—

Grade 1.	Grade 2.	Grade 3.	Grade 4.	Total.
13	3	6	3	25

The Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order, 1953, which came into force on the 1st June, 1953, requires that ice-cream shall contain certain minimum quantities of fat, sugar and milk solids other than fat. Five samples were taken during the year, all of which were satisfactory.

TYNEMOUTH CORPORATION ACTS, 1916-1934.

Regulations made under these Acts are in force, and no persons are permitted to use premises for the preparation of cooked or preserved foods unless they are registered by the Local Authority, who have power to refuse registration if, in their opinion, the premises are unsatisfactory.

There were 350 persons in the Borough registered as occupiers of premises in which Ice-Cream is sold or manufactured. 128 persons are registered as owners or occupiers of premises in which Preserved Meat, Fish Cakes, or other foods are prepared and sold. These figures do not include premises used for the business of Fish and Potato Frying.

718 visits were made during the year to supervise and emphasise the need for cleanliness in the handling of food. No serious negligence was discovered.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912-1927.

- (1) Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream. The following samples were examined for the presence of a preservative: Milk 84; Cream Nil; and Tinned Cream Nil. No preservatives were reported to be present in any of the foregoing samples.
- (2) Thickening Substances. No evidence was found during the year of any addition of thickening substances to Cream.

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929.

There were no samples taken under this Act during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following table sets out details of samples found adulterated during the past five years.

Year.	TOTAL SAMPLES.			MILK SAMPLES.		
	Number Examined.	Number Adulterated.	Percentage Adulterated.	Number Examined.	Number Adulterated.	Percentage Adulterated.
1951	212	8	3.77	110	4	3.63
1952	218	7	3.21	127	2	1.57
1953	202	3	1.48	107	2	1.87
1954	183	6	3.26	92	—	0.00
1955	159	6	3.77	84	3	3.56

Details of samples taken during 1955 are set out in Table I on page 47.

SAMPLES TAKEN FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

TABLE I.

Articles Analysed	Total	No. of Samples taken for Analysis		No. found to be Adulterated		Percentages of Samples Adulterated	
		Infor- mal	For- mal	Infor- mal	For- mal	Infor- mal	Formal
Almond (Ground) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Antiseptic Cream ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Baking Powder ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Beef Suet (Shredded) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bero S.R. Flour...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Borax ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Boracic & Honey ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Boracic Ointment ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Black Pudding ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Castor Oil ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cinnamon (Ground) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cooking Fat ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cocoanut (Ground) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cream of Tartar ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Epsom Salts ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Fish Cakes ...	6	6	—	—	—	—	—
Fullers Earth Ointment	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ginger ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Honey Cough Syrup ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Margarine ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
Meat Paste ...	7	7	—	—	—	—	—
Mint & Vinegar ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Milk (Sterilised) ...	12	—	12	—	—	—	—
„ (Pasteurised) ...	34	—	32	—	2	—	5.88%
„ (T.T.) ...	20	—	19	—	1	—	5.00%
„ (T.T. Pasteurised)	18	—	18	—	—	—	—
Olive Oil ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Orange Drink ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pepper White ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polony ...	2	1	—	1	—	50.0%	—
Rheumatism Powder ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rice (Ground) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sausage (Beef) ...	11	10	—	1	—	9.00%	—
„ (Pork) ...	7	6	—	1	—	8.33%	—
Sausage Meat ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Spice (Mixed) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Syrup of Figs ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Zinc & Castor Oil Cream	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Zinc Ointment ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	159	72	81	3	3	4.16%	3.70%

PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

TABLE II.

No.	Article.	Defect.	Action Taken.
57	Milk (Pasteurised)	Deficient in Milk Fat to extent of 3.3%.	Letter of caution to Producer.
73	Milk (Pasteurised)	Foreign substance excessive. 40 parts per 100,000.	Letter of Caution to Producer.
93	Milk (T.T.)	Moist Sediment (Mortar). 45 parts per million.	Producer prosecuted.
134	Pork Sausage	Deficient in Meat Content 14.0%.	Letter of caution to Manufacturer.
137	Polony	Contravention of P.H. (Preservatives in Food) Regulations.	Letter of caution to Manufacturer.
152	Beef Sausage	Deficient in Meat Content 9.6% of minimum.	Letter of caution to Manufacturer.

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923-1927.

No samples were taken during the year under these regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS 1923-1927.

No samples were taken under these regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925-1927.

159 samples were examined during the year and in only one case was any infringement of the regulations discovered.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

All slaughtering continues to be centralised at Whitley Bay Slaughterhouse, which remained under Government control until the termination of meat rationing. Later the slaughter-house reverted to the control of Whitley Bay M.B. Council.

Upon the termination of meat rationing, five applications were received to re-open private slaughterhouses which had been in disuse. All applications were refused, but one butcher successfully appealed before the Magistrates and the Council were instructed to issue a Licence subject to the satisfactory completion of repairs. These were subsequently carried out and a Licence was issued, in July 1955

The question of closing all Slaughterhouses was deferred for a period of 12 months.

**Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or
in part, from July to December 1955.**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	98	—	1	1074	2	—
Number inspected	98	—	1	1074	2	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	61	Nil	—	147	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	3 cwts. 1 qt. 9 lb. 61.3%	—	—	1 cwt. 24 lb. 13.7%	—	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1 (30 lbs.)	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1%	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis : Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned.	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	Nil	—	—	—	—	—

Inspection of Meat.

211 visits were made to butchers' shops. There are no open stalls used for the sale of meat.

SWINE FEVER.

No cases were discovered during the year.

WHALEMEAT.

Since the introduction of the Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations, 1949, no landings have been made direct from the fishing grounds.

FISH.

During the season, a large number of boats were engaged in herring fishing, and the catches were usually landed and dealt with the same day. All catches were dealt with at the Corporation Fish Quay, and the quality of the fish landed, has been well maintained.

Mr. J. Coxon Fry, Quay Master, has kindly placed at my disposal the following figures showing the volume of the trade in fish during the year.

Landings Made direct from the Fishing Grounds.

White Fish ... 2,842 landings 221,691 cwts.
Herring (Drift Net) ... 1,896 „ 133,580 „

Imported from Norway and landed at Fish Quay ex Norwegian Carriers.

NIL.

SHELLFISH

The condition of shellfish coming into this town continued to receive attention.

No samples were taken during the year.

There are no layings within the area of this authority.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED.

Food	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Fish	14	18	1	27	—
Shellfish	2	6	2	24	8
Beef	—	15	—	12	15
Poultry	—	—	1	21	11
Pork	—	1	3	4	8
Mutton	—	—	—	11	6
Tinned Fish	—	—	2	24	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Tinned Meat	1	5	1	—	—
Tinned Milk	—	1	—	10	—
Tinned Goods	—	5	3	2	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Miscellaneous Groceries ...	—	15	—	21	2 $\frac{7}{8}$
TOTALS	20	—	2	20	7$\frac{7}{8}$

MINERAL OIL IN FOOD ORDER, 1949.

No cases were discovered during the year.

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